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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/726,045	11/30/2000	Bernd Bruchmann	51035	8697

26474 7590 12/03/2003
KEIL & WEINKAUF
1350 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER
KUMAR, PREETI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1751	

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/726,045

Applicant(s)

BRUCHMANN ET AL.

Examiner

Preeti Kumar

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6,8 and 11-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 8 and 11-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 6, 8 and 11-13 are pending.
2. The rejection of claims 6, 8, and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda et al. (US 4,008,196) is withdrawn. The rejection of claims 6, 8, and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim et al. (US 4,180,491) is withdrawn.
3. Ex Parte Prosecution is reopened because upon further consideration of the prior art, the prior art made of record do not teach or suggest a process for modifying compounds or surfaces by causing them to react with an isocyanate compound comprising free isocyanate groups as recited in the claims.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments, see paper no.16, filed September 12, 2003, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 6, 8, 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda et al. (US 4,008,196) and under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim et al. (US 4,180,491) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made below.

New Grounds of Rejection

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

6. Claims 6, 8 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jansen et al. (US 6,080,831).

Jansen et al. teach a cellulose containing materials which have been obtained using water-dispersible polyisocyanates which in turn have been prepared by reaction of a compound of the formula 1 as recited in the instant claim 6 with a compound with at least one functional group which is reactive towards isocyanates. See abstract and col.2.

Regarding claims 8, 12 and 13, Jansen et al. teach various cycloaliphatic and/or aliphatic amines which optionally contain ether, ester or amide groups, have at least one functional group which is reactive towards isocyanates and contain at least one tertiary amino group and/or ammonium group such as N,N'-dimethylethylenediamine, N,N'-dimethylpropylenediamine, dimethylaminohydroxyethane, dimethylaminohydroxypropane, diethylaminohydroxyethane, dibutylaminohydroxyethane, diethylaminoethoxyhydroxyethane, (2-diethylaminoethoxy)-

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ethoxyhydroxyethane, N,N'-triethyl-N'-[.omega.-hydroxy-tetraethoxyethyl]propylenediamine, N-hydroxyethyl-morpholine, N-hydroxy-ethyl-methylpiperazine, N-hydroxyethylpiperidine, N-hydroxyethylpiperidine, N-hydroxyethylpyrrolidine, 4-hydroxy-N-methylpiperidine, 4-hydroxy-1-dimethylaminocyclohexane, 1,3-bis-(dimethylamino-ethoxy)-2-hydroxy-propane, 1,3-bis-(dimethylamino-propoxy)-2-hydroxypropane. See col.6.

Regarding claim 11, Jansen et al. teach a process for the treatment of the surface of a finished base paper with an emulsion of the polyisocyanate mixture in water. The polyisocyanates to be employed give ready to use papers of good wet strength. See col.9, ln.15-20.

In examples 1 and 2, Jansen et al. illustrate modified polyisocyanates having an isocyanate content between 4.9% and 14.1%. Please see col.10-11. Furthermore, in example 3, Jansen et al. illustrate a process of modifying a paper surface with the aforementioned polyisocyanates having an isocyanate content between 4.9% and 14.1%. Accordingly, the teachings of Jansen et al. appear to anticipate the material limitations of the instant claims.

Double Patenting

7. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double

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patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

8. Claims 6 and 8 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,080,831. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because claim 3 of US 6,080,831 encompass the material limitations of the instant claims.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Remaining references cited but not relied upon are considered to be cumulative to or less pertinent than those relied upon or discussed above. Applicant is reminded that any evidence to be presented in accordance with 37 CFR 1.131 or 1.132 should be submitted before final rejection in order to be considered timely.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Preeti Kumar whose telephone number is 703-305-0178. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00am - 5:30pm.

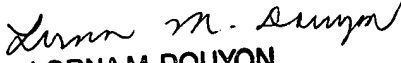
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra N. Gupta can be reached on 703-308-4708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9310.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-872-9309.

Preeti Kumar
Examiner
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PK


LORNA M. DOUYON
PRIMARY EXAMINER